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MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)			SAEED, USMAAN	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication. .

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/768,035	STEPANICH ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Usmaan Saeed	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2007.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 1/25/2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/23/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Grossman et al. (Grossman hereinafter)** (U.S. PG Pub No. 2004/0119760) in view of **Hertzog et al. (Hertzog hereinafter)** (U.S. PG Pub No. 2003/0069874).

With respect to claim 1, **Grossman** teaches a method for providing contacts to a device, comprising:

“obtaining a search input from an input field to locate a contact” as a search pane 440 with an input field 442 (**Grossman** Paragraph 0048 & Figure 4). Figure 4 show search term “Jane” is being entered to locate contact information.

“accessing contacts from the device” as computer executable instructions for operably displaying a user interface at the display device and for responding to user input entered at the user interface. The remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (**Grossman** Paragraph 0040).

“wherein accessing contacts from the device includes accessing a contacts database and a call log” as the remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (**Grossman**

Paragraph 0040). The schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman** Paragraph 0041). The present embodiment illustrates three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. For example, directory 280a may correspond to an email application and directory 280b may correspond to a telephony application. It will be appreciated, however, that the invention is not limited to use with any particular number of contact information directories or applications to which they correspond (**Grossman** Paragraph 0043, 0004 and 0006). Contacts are being accessed from the device 270, which includes three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. Directory 280a/contact database may correspond to an email application and directory 280b/contact database with calls may correspond to a telephony application.

The problem being solved by Grossman is to access all the different directories/databases at the same time for quicker access to the contact information.

"searching information within each of the accessed contacts to locate relevant contacts that include the search input, wherein the information that may be searched includes any information contained within the contact" as in particular, the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name "Jane," one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name

"Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed (**Grossman Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4**).

"unifying the relevant contacts" as the schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman Paragraph 0041 & Figure 4**).

"providing the unified contacts" as the schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman Paragraph 0041 & Figure 4**).

"monitoring the input field to determine when a new search input is entered" as the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name "Jane," one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name "Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed. It will be appreciated, however, that this example is merely illustrative and that a search can be performed by supplying other terms or symbols that are associated with a contact. For

example, a search can be performed by supplying a telephone number and searching for one or more contacts associated with the telephone number (**Grossman** Paragraph 0054 and figure 4).

Grossman teaches the elements of claim 1 as noted above but does not explicitly teaches “**wherein the search input is a single character**,” “**monitoring the input field to determine when a new search input is entered**” and “**automatically updating the contacts in response to the new search input**.”

However, **Hertzog** discloses “**wherein the search input is a single character**” as after entering the leading letter “c”, all contacts having a last name beginning with “c” will be displayed within the browser panel 136. Shortly after entering a subsequent “o” letter, only the contacts having a last name beginning with the letters “co” will be displayed following the 0.5 second dynamic refresh. Furthermore, the number of contacts located by current search parameters are displayed in the status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0111).

“**monitoring the input field to determine when a new search input is entered**” as a “power find” panel 134 via which a user may conduct a search of contact information contained within the local database 30, a browser panel 136 that displays personal information pertaining to contacts in the form of “contact cards” 138, a right panel 140, and a status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0110-0111) and “**automatically updating the contacts in response to the new search input**” as after entering the leading letter “c”, all contacts having a last name beginning with “c” will be displayed within the browser panel 136. Shortly after entering a subsequent “o” letter, only the

contacts having a last name beginning with the letters "co" will be displayed following the 0.5 second dynamic refresh. Furthermore, the number of contacts located by current search parameters are displayed in the status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0111).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of the cited references because **Hertzog**'s teachings would have allowed **Grossman** to automate the updating of personal information within a personal information management application, and for synchronizing updated personal information across multiple personal information management applications (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0040) and to provides a "global search" option that is use-selectable to provide a more powerful searching tool, utilizing which the user may search multiple fields using respective criteria for each of those information fields (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0112).

Claim 10 is essentially the same as claim 1 except it sets forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and is rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 2, **Grossman** teaches "**the method of claim 1, wherein searching the information within each of the accessed contacts to locate the relevant contacts that include the search input, further comprises searching at least three fields within each of the accessed contacts**" as Figure 4 (**Grossman**

Figure 4). Figure 4 shows that the search comprises work email field, home email field, home 2 email field, work phone # field, home phone # field, and mobile # field.

Claim 11 is essentially the same as claim 2 except it sets forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and is rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 3, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 1, further comprising selecting a contact from the unified contacts and accessing the selected contact**” as when a contact is selected, such as with a mouse pointer or any other means, the contact information corresponding to the selected contact can be displayed in the secondary frame 420. In one embodiment, the contact information displayed in the secondary frame 420 consists of the same contact information displayed in the primary frame 410, only enlarged or rearranged. According to another embodiment, the contact information displayed in the secondary frame 420 includes additional information about the contact than is displayed in the primary frame 410. The secondary frame 420 may also display tasks that can be done with that contact (e.g., send IM to the contact, send email to the contact, and so forth) (**Grossman** Paragraph 0052).

Claim 12 is essentially the same as claim 3 except it sets forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and is rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 4, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 1, wherein accessing contacts from the device further comprises accessing at least two different contact lists**” as Figure 4 (**Grossman** Figure 4). Figure 4 shows accessing two different contact lists, first one is my contacts and the second one is XYZ corporation directory.

With respect to claim 5, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 2, wherein obtaining the search input may include obtaining at least one input selected from a character, number, and icon**” as in particular, the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information (**Grossman** Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4).

Claims 13 & 19 are essentially the same as claim 5 except they set forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and a system and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 6, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 5, wherein searching the information within each of the accessed contacts further comprises searching a portion of a field within the contact for the search input**” as in particular, the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name “Jane,” one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name “Jane.” As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed (**Grossman** Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4).

Claims 14 & 20 are essentially the same as claim 6 except they set forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and a system and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 7, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 5, further comprising searching a first database for a first portion of relevant contacts, the first portion containing one or more entries from the first database; searching a second database for a second portion of relevant contacts; wherein at least some of the entries in the first portion have a different data structure format than at least some of the entries in the second portion**” as for example, by typing the name “Jane,” one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact

information corresponding with the name "Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed (**Grossman** Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4).

Claim 15 is essentially the same as claim 7 except it sets forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and is rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 8, **Grossman** teaches "**the method of claim 6, wherein accessing contacts from the device further comprises accessing tree or more of the following: a contacts database, a speed dial database, a call logs database, and a SIM contacts database**" "**wherein accessing contacts from the device includes accessing a contacts database and a call log**" as the present embodiment illustrates three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. For example, directory 280a may correspond to an email application and directory 280b may correspond to a telephony application. It will be appreciated, however, that the invention is not limited to use with any particular number of contact information directories or applications to which they correspond (**Grossman** Paragraph 0043, 0004 and 0006). The problem being solved by Grossman is to access all the different directories/databases at the same time for quicker access to the contact information.

Claims 16 & 21 are essentially the same as claim 8 except they set forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and a system and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 9, **Grossman** teaches “**the method of claim 2, wherein unifying the relevant contacts further comprises removing duplicates**” as 400 may also include a list 450 of filters that may be utilized with or without the search pane 450 for filtering the aggregate contact information by classification, as described above. Any number of filters may be used at the same time. The filters may be provided as links, as check box items, or as any other selectable object. The number and type of filters that may be included with the interface may be modified to accommodate any need and preference (**Grossman** Paragraph 0056).

Claims 17 & 22 are essentially the same as claim 9 except they set forth the claimed invention as computer readable medium and a system and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 18, **Grossman** teaches **a system for providing contacts to a device, comprising:**

“**an input device configured to receive search input from a user**” as a user may enter commands and information into the computer 120 through keyboard 140, pointing device 142, or other input devices (not shown), such as a microphone, joy stick,

game pad, satellite dish, scanner, or the like. These and other input devices are often connected to the processing unit 121 through a serial port interface 146 coupled to system bus 123. Alternatively, the input devices may be connected by other interfaces, such as a parallel port, a game port or a universal serial bus (USB) (**Grossman Paragraph 0035**).

“a display configured to display contacts” as an interface for enabling different contact information for a plurality of different contacts to be aggregated from numerous data stores into a single contact management system includes a window frame for displaying the contact information in a variety of rich views that graphically illustrate patterns existent within the contact information (**Grossman Abstract**).

“a data store arranged to store contacts” as an interface for enabling different contact information for a plurality of different contacts to be aggregated from numerous data stores into a single contact management system includes a window frame for displaying the contact information in a variety of rich views that graphically illustrate patterns existent within the contact information (**Grossman Abstract**).

“an application that is configured to perform the following actions, including” as an interface for enabling different contact information for a plurality of different contacts to be aggregated from numerous data stores into a single contact management system includes a window frame for displaying the contact information in a variety of rich views that graphically illustrate patterns existent within the contact information (**Grossman Abstract**).

"obtaining the search input that is used to locate a contact" as a search pane 440 with an input field 442 (**Grossman** Paragraph 0048 & Figure 4). Figure 4 show search term "Jane" is being entered to locate contact information.

"accessing the contacts from the data store" as computer executable instructions for operably displaying a user interface at the display device and for responding to user input entered at the user interface. The remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (**Grossman** Paragraph 0040).

"wherein accessing the contacts include accessing a contacts database and a call log" as the remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (**Grossman** Paragraph 0040). The schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman** Paragraph 0041). The present embodiment illustrates three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. For example, directory 280a may correspond to an email application and directory 280b may correspond to a telephony application. It will be appreciated, however, that the invention is not limited to

use with any particular number of contact information directories or applications to which they correspond (**Grossman** Paragraph 0043, 0004 and 0006). Contacts are being accessed from the device 270, which includes three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. Directory 280a/contact database may correspond to an email application and directory 280b/contact database with calls may correspond to a telephony application.

The problem being solved by Grossman is to access all the different directories/databases at the same time for quicker access to the contact information.

"searching information within each of the accessed contacts to locate relevant contacts that include the search input, wherein a majority of information within each of the accessed contacts may be searched" as in particular, the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name "Jane," one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name "Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed (**Grossman** Paragraph 0054 & Figure 4).

"unifying the relevant contacts" as the schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman** Paragraph 0041 & Figure 4).

“displaying the unified contacts on the display” as the schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman Paragraph 0041 & Figure 4**).

“monitoring the input device to determine when a new search input is entered” as the search pane 440 may be used to enter a key term that may comprise part of a name, an address, or an attribute that can be used to search for desired contact information. For example, by typing the name "Jane," one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name "Jane." As shown in the present embodiment, various Jane contacts from the My Contacts directory and the XYZ Corporation directory are displayed. It will be appreciated, however, that this example is merely illustrative and that a search can be performed by supplying other terms or symbols that are associated with a contact. For example, a search can be performed by supplying a telephone number and searching for one or more contacts associated with the telephone number (**Grossman Paragraph 0054 and figure 4**).

Grossman teaches the elements of claim 18 as noted above but does not explicitly teach **“wherein the search input is a single character,” “monitoring the input device to determine when a new search input is entered”** and **“automatically updating the display of the unified contacts in response to the new search input.”**

However, **Hertzog** discloses "**wherein the search input is a single character**" as after entering the leading letter "c", all contacts having a last name beginning with "c" will be displayed within the browser panel 136. Shortly after entering a subsequent "o" letter, only the contacts having a last name beginning with the letters "co" will be displayed following the 0.5 second dynamic refresh. Furthermore, the number of contacts located by current search parameters are displayed in the status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0111).

"monitoring the input device to determine when a new search input is entered" as a "power find" panel 134 via which a user may conduct a search of contact information contained within the local database 30, a browser panel 136 that displays personal information pertaining to contacts in the form of "contact cards" 138, a right panel 140, and a status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0110-0111) and "**automatically updating the display of the unified contacts in response to the new search input**" as after entering the leading letter "c", all contacts having a last name beginning with "c" will be displayed within the browser panel 136. Shortly after entering a subsequent "o" letter, only the contacts having a last name beginning with the letters "co" will be displayed following the 0.5 second dynamic refresh. Furthermore, the number of contacts located by current search parameters are displayed in the status bar 142 (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0111).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of the cited references because **Hertzog's** teachings would have allowed **Grossman** to automate the updating of personal

information within a personal information management application, and for synchronizing updated personal information across multiple personal information management applications (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0040) and to provides a "global search" option that is use-selectable to provide a more powerful searching tool, utilizing which the user may search multiple fields using respective criteria for each of those information fields (**Hertzog** Paragraph 0112).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 7/23/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In these arguments applicant relies on the amended claims and not the original ones.

Claims must be given the broadest reasonable interpretation during examination and limitations appearing in the specification but not recited in the claim are not read into the claim (See M.P.E.P. 2111 [R-I]).

Applicant argues that **Grossman** and **Hertzog** do not teach or suggest "wherein accessing contacts from the device includes accessing a contacts database and a call log"

In response to the preceding arguments examiner respectfully submits that **Grossman** teaches "wherein accessing contacts from the device includes

accessing a contacts database and a call log" as the remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (**Grossman Paragraph 0040**). The schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (**Grossman Paragraph 0041**). The present embodiment illustrates three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. For example, directory 280a may correspond to an email application and directory 280b may correspond to a telephony application. It will be appreciated, however, that the invention is not limited to use with any particular number of contact information directories or applications to which they correspond (**Grossman Paragraph 0043, 0004 and 0006**). Contacts are being accessed from the device 270, which includes three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. Directory 280a/contact database may correspond to an email application and directory 280b/contact database with calls may correspond to a telephony application.

The problem being solved by Grossman is to access all the different directories/databases at the same time for quicker access to the contact information.

*** Contact Information**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Usmaan Saeed whose telephone number is (571)272-4046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571)272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Usmaan Saeed
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2166

Leslie Wong
Primary Examiner

US
August 15, 2007


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER